README

USN NTC Bainbridge – *The Compass* (1952)

Overview

This digital archive preserves the 1952 *The Compass* recruit class book from the U.S. Naval Training Center (NTC), Bainbridge, Maryland, Companies 410 & 423. The project was created to preserve the publication while improving accessibility and searchability for historians, genealogists, veterans, and family researchers.

Archive Contents

- **Searchable PDF** – Complete class book with OCR text layer and two appended alphabetical recruit rosters.
- **Metadata Workbook** – Detailed descriptive metadata for each scanned page, including identifiers, titles, descriptions, names, organizations, geographic references, and historical notes.

Digitization

The original class book was scanned at high resolution to produce preservation-quality images. The searchable PDF was created using optical character recognition (OCR).

Because portions of some recruit names near the book gutter could not always be recognized reliably by OCR, two alphabetical recruit roster appendices (Companies 410 and 423) were added to the searchable PDF. These appendices improve name discoverability while preserving the original scanned pages without alteration.

Using the Searchable PDF

Use your PDF reader's search function to locate:

- Recruit names
- Places
- Organizations
- Topics appearing throughout the class book

Some recruit names may be found on both the original portrait pages and the appended roster pages. Others may appear only in the appendices if the original printed text could not be accurately recognized by OCR.

Notes

The appended recruit rosters are modern editorial finding aids created during this digitization project. They are not part of the original 1952 publication.

Every effort has been made to preserve the original appearance of the class book while improving digital accessibility and searchability.

Digitized and compiled by Rick Dumais, 2026